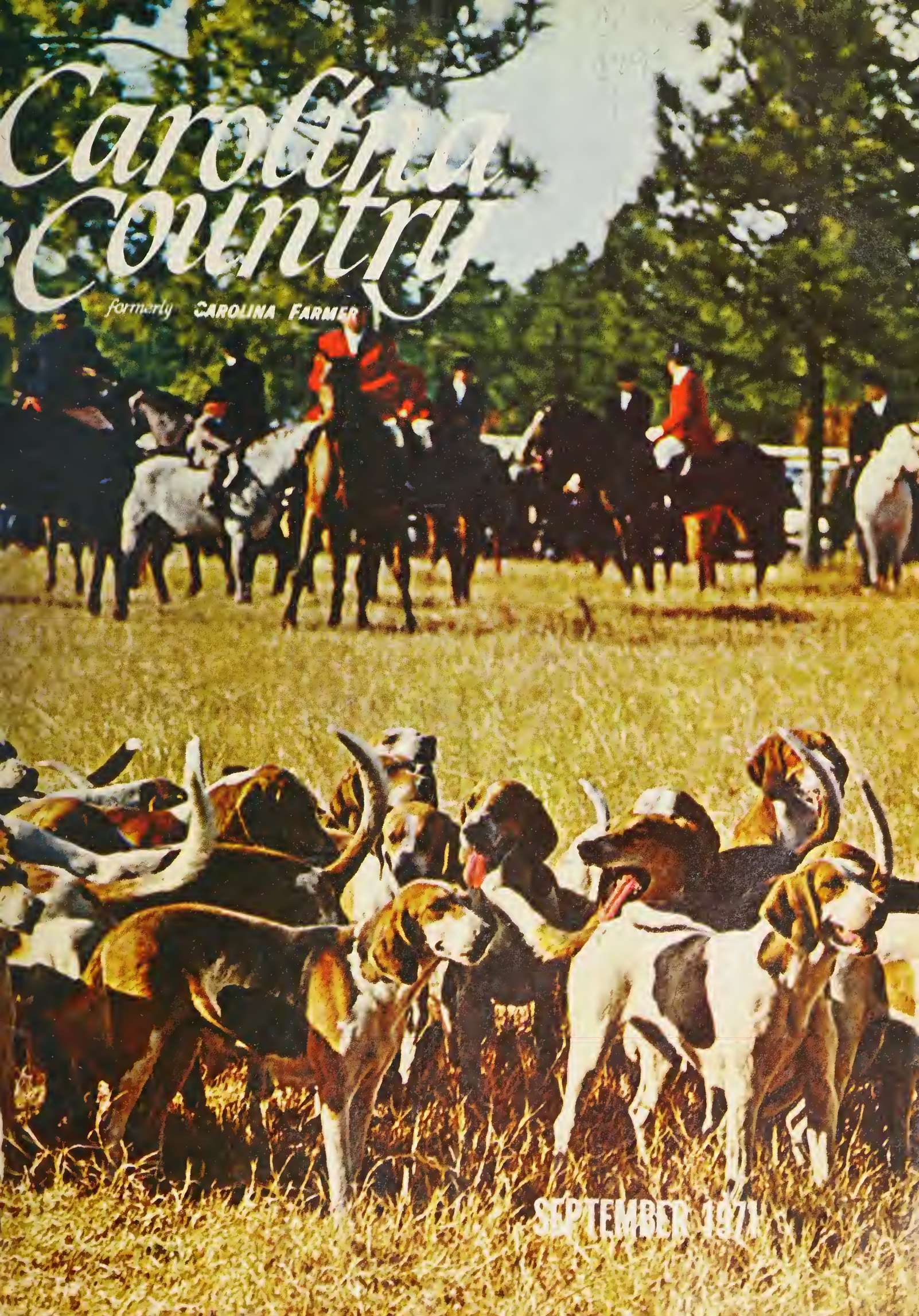

Carolina country

formerly CAROLINA FARMER

SEPTEMBER 1971

Touch Wood For Luck

How many times have you boasted about something and then "knock on wood" to ward off punishment for boasting? If you have you're not alone for one of the most prevalent of all superstitions is for people to invariably knock on wood after bragging about their success or good health.

In February, 1940 when Winston Churchill was First Lord of the Admiralty, he told the House of Commons that up to that date only the battleship "Royal Oak" and the aircraft carrier "Courageous" of the British fleet had been sunk during the war. Ellen Wilkinson, a Labor member, shouted, "Touch Wood!"

"I sympathize with that feeling," replied Churchill. "I rarely like to be any considerable distance from a piece of wood." Whereupon the First Lord of the Admiralty touched his dispatch box.

How wood acquired this supposed protective power against misfortune and bad luck is not definitely known, but many theories have been offered. One theory is that it came from the old game known as "Touching" or "wood tag," in which a player who succeeds in touching wood is safe from capture.

Another theory has it that this game and "knocking on wood" had a common origin in primitive tree worship, when trees were believed to harbor protective spirits. To rap on a tree—the dwelling place of a friendly spirit—was to call up the spirit of the tree to protect one against impending misfortune.

Later, people would place the hand on a wooden statue of a deity for the same purpose of warding off misfortune. It is said that among certain European peasants it's still common to knock loudly on wood to keep away evil spirits.

Some people hold the superstition to be of Christian origin and that it's in some way associated with the wooden cross upon which Jesus was crucified. Perhaps, they think, it's a survival of the religious rite of touching a crucifix when taking an oath or the beads of the rosary when praying.

Ed Brown, Jr.

Who Said Man Would Never Fly?

So many people are traveling abroad and flying nowadays that I feel I must tell about my most memorable trip if only to establish I too have had my fling.

This trip of mine happened during World War II. I had flown into Holland on an airborne operation and had written stories about paratroop and glider infantry attacking the Germans around Eindhoven and Nijmegen. It had been an impressive if unsuccessful demonstration of British and American airborne power and now I had flown back for follow-up coverage.

The story this time was to be about retrieving gliders from the battlefield so that, presumably, they could be used on another front.

Hundreds of gliders were scattered about the neat flat fields in the Eindhoven-Nijmegen area. Many had been destroyed or damaged by enemy fire or had crashed with their cargoes of men and equipment. But quite a number had survived and those not stripped by scavengers for wheels and instruments had been sorted out for pick-up.

The pick-up system involved rigging a loop at the end of a tow rope connected with the glider between two uprights. One of the old C47 transports used in those days by the U.S. Troop Carrier Command then would fly low over the pick-up position trailing a cable with a hook. When things went right, the hook would catch in the tow rope's loop and jerk the glider into the air. The system was chancy. Although it had been tested before, it was still experimental.

My mission was to ride in the first of the gliders to be retrieved and, barring misadventure, write what happened.

The glider pilot with whom I was to fly was a stranger. But I haven't forgotten him. The pilot and I braced as the tow plane roared over us. We were slapped against the backs of our seats when the hook caught and the glider took off.

Not long after we were airborne and had straightened out to head south, we ran into rain.

We'd been up perhaps half an hour when the pilot punched me and swung the control wheel over to my side of the cockpit.

"Try it for a while," he yelled.

I swallowed hard and took the wheel, not because I wanted to but because obviously somebody had to steer. I had flown several times before in both British and American gliders as a passenger. I had a vague idea of what had to be done but I never before had tried doing it.

Through occasional breaks in the clouds and rain I could see the earth far below. Well, we can't get lost, I rationalized, because we can go only where the tow plane pulls us.

After we had been in the air for what seemed to me like most of a day, the pilot yelled something and pointed downward. I could see a large greenhouse below. I had no idea where we were. I could imagine crashing into all that glass.

The pilot yelled again. I thought I heard him say, "Get ready to go down." I was sure I must have been mistaken because I couldn't believe he'd take a chance on my attempting a landing.

I shook my head and yelled back. "No. No. You're the pilot."

The pilot grinned. "Chicken," he yelled. He pulled the wheel back to his side, spotted a landing strip and cut loose from the tow rope.

We immediately lost speed. He banked the glider and circled. We came down finally with a couple of bounces and jolts. I got a ride from the airstrip, eventually reached Paris and collected my wits to write the epoch.

I didn't write how it felt to fly a glider. That was something that at the moment I couldn't put into words. I just wrote briefly that a glider which had flown against the Germans had been recovered to fly again. So much was happening in war news at the time I doubt anybody cared.

Jim Chane

Carolina Country®

Read Monthly in More Than 200,000 Homes.

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General Manager

COVER — Carolina Country offers something for pleasure for everybody—from vacation living in the mountains, on its lake shores and coast, to skiing, swimming, camping, boating and spectator sports, to music festivals, crafts and art shows, historical dramas and some of the nation's best known golf courses. Horse shows draw thousands of people annually, and formal fox hunts are both colorful and exciting. The cover photo of hounds and hunters in the Sandhills region near Southern Pines is from the Travel and Promotion Division, N.C. Dept. of Conservation and Development.

This month . . .

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8 DETROIT'S DEBRIS
12 THE CAROLINA HOMEMAKER
16 THE CONSUMER'S PLIGHT

CAROLINA COUNTRY (formerly THE CAROLINA FARMER) IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY TARHEEL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION, INC. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT RICHMOND, VA., 23219. EDITORIAL OFFICES, SUITE 911, BRANCH BANK BUILDING, RALEIGH, N. C. 27602. POSTMASTER, SEND FORM 3579 TO BOX 1699, RALEIGH, N. C. 27602. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 75 CENTS PER YEAR. ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO: CAROLINA COUNTRY, BOX 1699, RALEIGH, N.C. 27602.

All Together for North Carolina

A Contest for Our Young Readers

To kick off the new school year, we're holding a contest. It's open to boys and girls in the fourth through 12th grades in all the families which read *Carolina Country* magazine. All you have to do to compete, if you're in that age group, is write a short theme, not more than 300 words long, on "Why I'm Glad I Live in Carolina Country."

The point of the contest is to give you a chance to tell in your own words what's good about North Carolina and what makes it an outstanding state.

We think the readers of *Carolina Country* magazine would like to know you are aware of the many ways North Carolina stands first in the nation and would be proud to know that young North Carolinians like you are proud of what North Carolinians have accomplished.

The best written and most convincing themes will win prizes. We're offering three sets of prizes. One set for students in the fourth through sixth grades, one for students in the seventh through ninth grades and another for students in the 10th through 12th grades. The first prize in each division will be $25, the second prize $15 and the third prize $10.

Writing a theme for our contest won't be like writing one for your teacher because we'll be more interested in what you know about your state and how clearly you set out your reasons for liking it than whether your theme is neat or your grammar is perfect.

The only rules are: (1) That you write your theme yourself (we don't want some older person to write it for you); (2) That you write it legibly enough so we can read it; (3) That you put your name, age and grade and the name and correct, complete address of your parents at the end, and (4) That you mail your theme to us not later than Oct. 31, 1971.

Send your entry to: Contest Editor, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602. Remember you must mail it by Oct. 31.

Now's the time to get started. You shouldn't have to do a lot of research and look up and copy a lot of facts from books. We want your thinking and feelings—your own reasons for being glad you're a North Carolinian. Even if you don't win a prize, you'll be helping to show we Tar Heels are All Together for North Carolina.

Jim Chaney

TARHEEL RURAL LINES

a commentary on events and issues important to consumer-owners of EMCs/by J. C. Brown Jr.

EMCs Await Final Ruling From FPC

Many Electric Membership Corporation consumers have been notified over the past few weeks of rate increases. These increases have become necessary because of substantial increases in the wholesale power rates EMCs have been forced to pay the power companies.

Approximately 18 EMCs purchase wholesale power from Carolina Power and Light Company which has upped the cost to them some 30 to 40 percent. The cost to purchase wholesale power represents roughly 40 percent of EMCs' total expenditures. The increase will cost the average EMC an additional $25,000 a month to purchase power.

FPC Trial Examiner Has Ruled Favorably

The EMCs have taken legal action to oppose CP&L's rate increase and argued that the present contract with the Company does not expire until March 31, 1973. A Federal Power Commission trial examiner has agreed with them.

The Federal Power Commission said earlier that a final ruling would be made by May 28. However, no ruling has been made and, meanwhile, CP&L has put into effect a full rate increase since May 28 under bond.

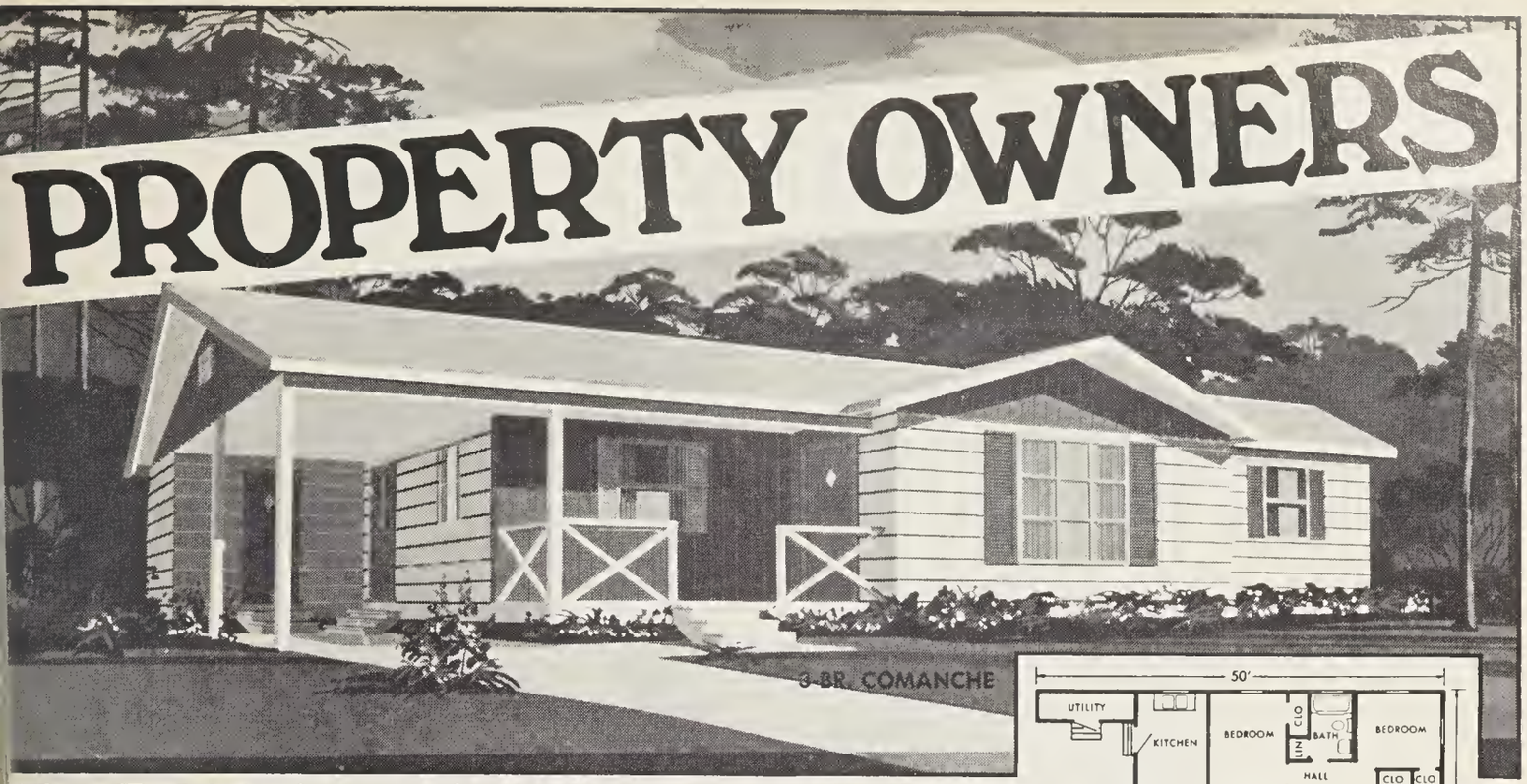
Most EMCs have not had to increase their rates since the 1940's; however, with the tremendous increase already passed on to them by CP&L, they have no other place to get needed funds except from their consumer-members.

FPC Has Not Made Final Ruling

The FPC has been expected to rule on the case any day but has failed to do so, and the day a ruling will come is mere conjecture. While the FPC is dragging its feet in making a decision, the consumers of EMCs are having to foot the bill.

Should the FPC finally rule in favor of the EMCs, CP&L will have to return money steming from the increase along with a payment of interest. Even so, CP&L will have benefited greatly from the loan.

PROPERTY OWNERS



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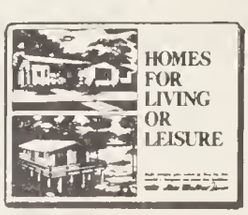

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People seeking for Gold in North Carolina.

The Carolina Gold Rush

By Bruce Roberts

A hundred years or more ago, all eyes were focused on a new and exciting newspaper, The Miners and Farmers Journal published in Charlotte, because practically every farm in the North Carolina Piedmont had a gold mine on it or at least a prospect.

The newspaper was filled with ads for "gold mines." These mines were mostly deposit or surface mines located beside the streams of Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanley, Cabarrus, Burke, Union, McDowell, Randolph, Catawba, Anson, Hoke, Alexander, Lincoln, Rutherfordton, Gaston, Cleveland, Davie and Davidson counties and a score of other counties.

This paper along with a new industry of the state, second only to agriculture in value, came into being with America's first gold rush—not in California but in Carolina. California got the publicity but North Carolina had everything California had and had it first!

It started in 1799 when a farmer's son, twelve-year-old Conrad Reed, found a 17 pound gold nugget in Meadow Creek not far from Rocky River in Cabarrus County about twenty miles north of Charlotte.

The farmer, John Reed, had been a Hessian soldier who had deserted the British cause and settled in the northern part of Mecklenburg County, now a part of Cabarrus. Just another country farmer born to live and die in the obscurity of what was then almost a frontier community. The Cherokees still controlled the Western mountains of Carolina and in 1799 the last thought in the mind of John Reed was that anything historic would never happen to him.

When his son brought the 17 pound yellow rock to him, it was very heavy and like nothing he had ever seen. He took it to a silversmith in the nearby village of Concord, a man who must have had a one metal mind for he looked at the rock and told Reed it was of no value. John Reed lugged his rock back to the farm where, because of its weight and unusual appearance, it was used for three years as a doorstop. Of all the superlatives North Carolina can rightfully claim, the first gold rush and the world's richest doorstop have been sadly overlooked. For its value was enough to make Reed a wealthy man if he had known it!

In 1802 the Reed farm was doing better and John Reed was able to make a trip to Fayetteville, quite a trip and quite an event for a farmer in those days. Perhaps on impulse Reed tossed the doorstop into his wagon as he headed off for the "big town." There he showed the rock to a jeweler. Careful not to show surprise the jeweler asked Reed what he wanted for it. "Three dollars and fifty cents," replied Reed thinking he was asking a big price.

Hardly were the words out of his mouth before the money was in his hand. John Reed was happy for he had even been paid in coins, silver coins, and as he went down the muddy street of Fayetteville he was attracted by a sign advertising some new beans just imported from South America. The store clerk said they were coffee beans and Reed thought he would take some to his wife as a surprise. His good wife, Sarah, tried to cook the green coffee beans with pork but they just didn't taste right and the Reeds ended up throwing the whole mess away, Reed certain that he had been swindled on the beans.

A few weeks later word got back to John Reed that the

"rock" he had sold was gold. He went back to Fayetteville and had a talk with the jeweler. History doesn't record this conversation but he left Fayetteville this time with a sum in four figures.

More important he asked his son, Conrad, to show him where the rock had come from. And when John Reed went down to the banks of the small stream running through his property, he saw what DeSoto had dreamed about. Along the floor of the stream were strewn hundreds of gold nuggets. It was the world's richest mining claim says Thomas Hurley in his book "Famous Gold Nuggets of The World" as to number, value and quality of the nuggets.

This half-mile of stream was richer than any claim California was ever to have almost 50 years later. Nuggets could be picked up and a quart jar filled in a few hours, at least at first.

So began America's first gold rush. The gold Reed saw was gathered up and Cabarrus County gold was the first native gold to reach the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia. Word spread rapidly and everywhere people began to look for gold in the nearby streams.

The Director of the U.S. Mint wrote President Jefferson that the gold discoveries in North Carolina were of the greatest importance to this country because they insured the young nation of a source of gold which would free it from dependence on European mines.

Within a few years there were placer (surface diggings) all across Piedmont North Carolina and in 1828 a second gold rush was touched off in Burke county to the west. Gold mining became the leading industry in the state after farming and for 50 years North Carolina was the leading gold producing state in America until California gold began to flow into the mint.

In the meantime a branch of the U.S. Mint, the first branch to be opened, was built in Charlotte where the post office now stands. In 1838 it began turning out $2.50 and $5 gold coins. But even before the government mint opened, a private mint begun by Christopher Bechtler had been in operation in Rutherfordton since 1830. This mint had done something the government should have done for

Remains of an old stamp mill used to crush gold ore at the Reed Mine during its last productive days. The Reed property, site of America's first gold discovery, is a National Historical Landmark, and will be preserved.

One of the earliest photos of gold mining in North Carolina, published in 1897, shows a woman working log rockers at Gold Hill to separate gold from gravel and soil. Girls and women often worked these rockers while the men dug the gold ore.

Bechtler made gold dollars out of the gold dust the miners would bring to his door.

There were no laws against coining gold and Christopher Bechtler then had the distinction of making the first gold dollar ever made in America. His coins today are museum pieces and sell for hundreds, even thousands of dollars.

Although John Reed never learned to write he became a wealthy man buying servants and building a manor house. Over $10 million in gold was mined on the Reed property, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966. The State of North Carolina recently purchased this site of America's first gold discovery and eventually the mine will be opened to the public.

Not far away from Reed in 1825 another farmer, Tobias Barringer, was panning for gold on his Stanly County property. Tobias was methodically working his way up a small stream which ran through his farm when the gold stopped. Puzzled about this the farmer thought he would dig into the side of the creek bed and see if the gold might have washed out of the side of the hill.

He had not dug but two or three feet into the hill and as many feet deep when he struck a nest of gold, richly intermingled with quartz. Before the day was over Barringer carried home over $1,200 worth of gold. But more important, he kept on digging into the side of the hill following the quartz vein and thus became the first recorded "lode" miner in America. (Lode mining is underground mining of gold in veins.)

After Barringer's discovery, everyone started digging underground bringing up the golden ore with three great mines producing in Charlotte, the St. Catherine, the Rudisill and the Capps. Gold was discovered in over half of North Carolina's 100 counties.

But by 1900 the easy gold had been gotten and many veins spent and the golden days when a farmer could get rich panning the streams on his farm were gone.

(Mr. Roberts, one of North Carolina's most talented photographer-writers, is the author of several popular books. His latest, "The Carolina Gold Rush, America's First," an attractive volume filled with facts, stories and pictures, may be ordered at leading book stores or from the publisher, McNally and Loftin, 510 West 4th St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202. It sells for $4.50).

Okay, Detroit, You Built 'Em; Now How Do We Get Rid of 'Em?

If the nation's automobile industry wants to stay in business, it's going to have to come up with a disposable car.

Or devise practical ways of disposing of old cars.

If it doesn't, there soon won't be any room left in the country to park its products or harbor its discards.

That's glaringly obvious everywhere you drive. Auto graveyards ring most of our towns and cities. From the mountains to the coast across Carolina Country, all over America, you see the ugly corpses of abandoned autos sitting in fields and thickets, rusting in gullies and people's yards, cluttering rivers, creeks and vacant lots and resting at the ends of dead-end streets and up alleys.

America has become a nation of litterbugs, and old cars are our most conspicuous litter. We've strewn almost as many of them over the landscape as we have beer cans, pop bottles and paper cups, wrappings and cartons.

The eyesore they create is growing because they're the hardest of our litter to dispose of and one of the fastest of our big item purchases to conk out. It's growing because millions of new cars are being produced every year with no plan for getting rid of the older cars the new models eventually push off the highways.

Junkyards are overflowing with the discards and most don't want or have room for any more. Scrap car metal prices, apparently because of the over-supply, are so low many junk dealers don't consider it worth their time and labor to convert old bodies to stripped and bundled tin.

A car that lasts 10 years nowadays is an exception. If it hasn't worn out, broken down or been wrecked before then, it needs expensive repairs or, by the standards of our time, identifies the owner either as a non-conformist or some kind of oddball.

Years of persuasive Detroit merchandising has convinced most Americans, particularly the young, a new car is the prime status symbol and only a new car is beautiful, safe and economical.

By bringing out new models every year, auto manufacturers build in obsolescence. Economy has been sacrificed for design changes that seldom add to operating efficiency and require expensive re-tooling that adds to already high sticker prices.

In three years, 1967's flashy sedan looks as dated as a 1967 hemline. In five years, if the original owner still hasn't traded, he either must decide he's stuck with it or sell or trade knowing he will take a loss.

By the time the average American has finished paying for his new car, it not only has depreciated to the point that it's uneconomical to recondition but it needs so much reconditioning he figures he'll come out better by trading it in.

And so, every year, millions of Americans buy new cars, millions of older cars pass from original owners, to used car lots, to terminal owners and finally reach the end of the road.

Until scrap metal prices slumped, the end of the road usually was a salvage yard. Used parts and scrap metal dealers 10 years ago would pay $25 or more for old cars and often would pick them up.

Now most of them are glutted with old cars. Very few will go after one; there isn't enough salvage value to justify it. Some, though not many, may accept an old car if you will bring it to them. But they won't pay you for it. Unless you deliver it with the battery and radiator, they'll be doing you a favor by letting you leave it.

"There's no market for them," Graham Holland of Holland Metal and Parts Company explained. "We've got more than we want. Everybody's having the same problem. There's not enough value in them to pay the labor to scrap them."

Holland has stopped buying old cars or going after those that are offered free.

"If you have to pull one in and pay what it costs to salvage the metal," he explained, "you can't break even.

"The only parts of an old car that have any value now are the battery and radiator. An old battery brings $1.25 as scrap, an old radiator, $3.

"It used to be you could get at least $25 for an old car. But that was 10 years ago. If the price of scrap metal goes up, it will take scrap dealers at least two years to clean up the country. There's that many old cars lying around."

Scrap metal prices are the key, Holland said. They're so low now, he explained, you can't make money out

of turning old cars into metal.

"I've seen the time tin was worth one to one and a half cents a pound," he said. "That was in 1957. Now it's 15 cents a hundred. There's no money in that.

"It used to be a car body bundled and shipped was worth about $15. Now it's worth about $1.50. That's the reason you see the country so full of old wrecks."

Hurley Bridges of Bridges Iron and Metal Company said another reason scrap dealers are swamped with old cars is that they can't burn them out in most places any longer.

"They won't let me burn them," Bridges said. "The Town of Garner has an ordinance against it because of the smoke.

"If I could burn them out, I'd take every old car I could find. If I could burn them, I'd clean up North Carolina."

Burning is necessary, he explained, because it's the cheapest and easiest way to remove paint from the metal. The scrap metal mills don't want metal with paint and impurities, he said. Besides, he added, burning is the easiest way to get rid of upholstery and other materials.

"If you take the tires off and cut the engine out and chassis off," Bridges said, "you can burn out an old car without making much smoke because there's not much left to make smoke."

Frank Marchisello, manager of K&L Scrap Service, one of North Carolina's larger scrap metal operations, said reducing an old car to scrap is an involved process.

"Burning presents a problem because of pollution," Marchisello explained. "We try not to set any fires. This is a ticklish situation. You can't burn. You have to hand-strip. You have to cut out the chasis and engine, being careful not to set a fire accidentally with the torch, remove the body, strip out all the upholstery and trim and then crush the body and make up the metal into bales. The chassis is cut up separately by machinery."

Marchisello estimated the body, after being cleaned and baled, would bring 50 to 60 cents a hundred pounds as scrap metal.

Some operations have presses big and powerful enough to compress the chassis with the body, but Marchisello said not many salvage dealers could afford, in view of the low return, to make so large an investment.

Unless scrap metal prices rise appreciably, the abandoned car problem will continue to grow and the number of hulks littering the countryside will continue to increase.

The problem can't be allowed to wait on the metal market. Corrective action will have to be started to find faster remedies. The federal government will have to formulate a national policy. State governments will have to impose more effective controls against dumping old cars and for the restriction of spreading auto graveyards. Counties and municipalities will have to adopt better local ordinances to clear existing dumping grounds and prevent others from being created. Study commissions will have to be formed to develop long-range programs.

The old car problem is that serious. And if reasonable solutions are found for it, then perhaps solutions also can be found for the similar product created by old appliances and the other junk littering America.

In the end, though, automobile manufacturers must recognize the abandoned car is basically their problem.

They're going to have to make arrangements to assure the cars they build don't wind up as roadside eyesores.

They might include with each new car they sell after 1972 a refund policy similar to the owner's warranty covering disposal of the car after it becomes unserviceable.

They might authorize their dealers to accept and perhaps tow in old models that final owners want to surrender.

They might establish centers where old cars could be delivered or collected for disposal and work out agreements with mills that process scrap metal for melting down the remains.

They might help find better markets for metal from old cars and work out processes with their metal suppliers for using more of it themselves.

They'll have to do something, or there won't be space left for cars or people.

Any industry that can come up with as many gimmicks and such a proliferation of body styles should be able to work out the details.

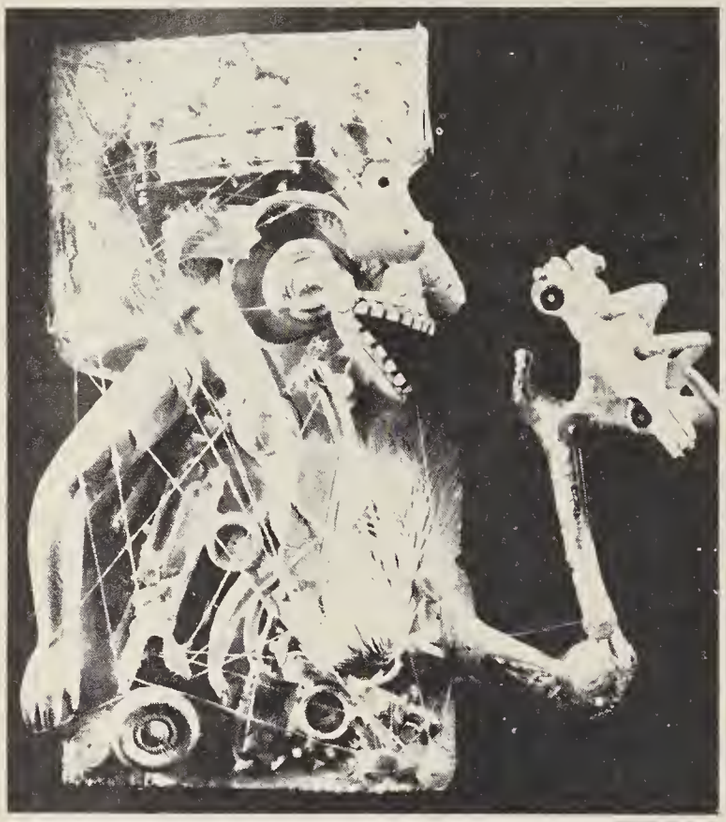
As for the expense involved, the auto manufacturers could adjust for that by dropping the expensive monkey business of annual model changes.

The savings probably would be enough not only to cover the cost of disposing of old cars nobody wants but perhaps even to make new cars in the future more durable, less costly to service, run and repair and more desirable to retain.

Jim Chaney

Insurance System fo

Illustration by Mike Eagle, The National Observer.



Although a study commission made an exhaustive investigation of auto insurance problems, the 1971 General Assembly largely failed to provide the relief the commission proposed. But something must be done, and done soon, for North Carolina motorists. An article in the August 2 issue of The National Observer, reprinted by permission, shows auto insurance is causing dissatisfaction throughout the country. Highlights of The National Observer article follow.

By Daniel Henninger

Many drivers will tell you that the only thing worse than a car accident is the creaming that they took from the insurance company for having the accident. Wary of having their policies canceled, thousands of American motorists are actually afraid to use their high-priced protection after an accident.

Congressional critics maintain that the big auto insurers are fat with profits earned by investing the cash reserves that insurance companies must retain to pay off claims losses and policy rebates. Last year the Allstate Insurance Co. made $57,000,000 by investing this idle cash.

The insurance companies, faced with rising opposition to wholesale policy cancellations and ever-higher premiums, insist that they are being bled dry by auto-repair costs and medical bills of auto-accident victims. If they were forced to report as operating income their earnings from cash-reserve investments, they argue, smaller companies would be driven to the wall and competition stifled.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) concluded after a $2,000,000 study that the present auto-insurance system doesn't even give drivers the protection that they pay for. In 1967, DOT says, auto accidents cost U.S. drivers $10.5 billion but their insurance paid them back only $6.4 billion. Last year the system repaid only $5.7 billion of a $13.1-billion liability loss.

One state insurance commissioner calls the present system "a monster." Another terms it "the worst possible system." One of every four families in the DOT survey lost its insurance after filing a personal-injury claim. And Consumers Union, a private research organization, says that 14,000 persons didn't file post-accident claims in 1969 for fear of a policy cancellation or premium jack-up.

Almost everybody agrees that something has to be done, but there's deep disagreement about what to do.

DOT says the present system should be junked and replaced with a no-fault system. A complete no-fault plan would pay policyholders' losses immediately, ending the practice of spending months or years in litigation trying to figure out who cracked up whom. Theoretically the money saved by quick claims settlements would be passed on to policyholders as reduced premiums. That's the way it has worked out in Puerto Rico and Saskatchewan, Canada, where no-fault has been operating for some time.

Critics, notably lawyers who would take a big cut in income if court claims were eliminated, say no-fault punishes the innocent by giving reckless drivers a right to compensation. Another allegation is that complete no-fault takes away one's right to pain-and-suffering damages, the intangible psychological loss that juries often translate into big cash settlements.

Industry spokesmen admit to a cancellation problem. Donald W. Perin, Jr., of the National Association of Insurance Agents, says it "has been quite bad for the past two years. There's undoubtedly been too much cancellation."

A spokesman for the American Insurance Association says many auto insurers are covering the problem with semantics. "When the policy is up for renewal, the insurance companies don't call it cancellation, they call it nonrenewal," he says. "To you and me as the consumer the effect is the same: We don't have a policy any more."

The reason given most often for the cancellation flurry is that state insurance commissioners have strangled the industry's profits by holding down premium rates. One company spokesman explains how low rates breed cnacellations. Say a company requests a 15 per cent increase but only gets 7 per cent. "The other 8 per cent the company would make up by reducing the number of policies it had," the spokesman says.

Though rating climates differ from state to state, this general description of the industry's cancellation rationale is "perfectly true," according to Louis Runge, underwriting supervisor of the Kemper Insurance Co. At policy-renewal time, underwriters "adopt a somewhat different attitude toward people who have produced accidents and have convictions," he says. "You have to match the cost of providing the service with what the law permits us to charge for offering the service. If the two don't provide the profit incentive to us, obviously you lose interest in selling your product."

When that happens, insurance companies tend to write policies for only the "preferred risk"—the ideal driver who has never had an accident or traffic-law conviction, and isn't likely to have either.

How can the companies predict this? They say it isn't so

tos Is A Monster

arcane a judgment as many drivers believe. Besides past accident and traffic-violation records, companies judge applicants on their age, sex, occupation, where they live, whether they're married, and how often they drive their car.

Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner Herbert S. Denenberg says, "Underwriting has always been sort of subjective and sort of irrational." Another commissioner calls underwriters "crystal-ball gazers."

The insurance companies resent this criticism. They insist that their computer analyses of huge statistical samples prove that certain groups of people have more potential for making claims and causing accidents than drivers whose computer results are considered safe.

Two professors, David Klein of Michigan State University and Julian A. Waller of the University of Vermont, analyzed the industry's criteria as part of the DOT study. They found serious flaws.

For one thing, underwriters depend heavily on accident data collected by police when setting an area's premiums. Mr. Klein and Dr. Waller found this criterion unreliable: While California police recorded 81 per cent of all reportable crashes in 1968, Illinois police reported only 36 per cent.

The professors also found the police less likely to ticket and charge affluent, older drivers than young or poorer drivers breaking the same laws. Thus, they imply, official statistics tend to exaggerate the bad driving records of teen-agers and the poor, who often pay very high premiums.

Screening techniques are at best only 80 per cent accurate, the professors maintain. So a good driver has one chance in five of being inaccurately classified as a bad driver.

"Such serious inadequacies exist in the current methods for data collection by official agencies," conclude Mr. Klein and Dr. Waller, that the assumption that one can distinguish a high-crash risk from a low risk "is largely without validity."

But it isn't much consolation for people who've been priced out or thrown out of the auto insurance market to discover they've been done in by allegedly bad data. They're fed up with a protection system that is causing so much financial pain. The most-discussed alternative is no-fault insurance. Two such plans are before Congress, and a few states already have passed their own no-fault plans.

The Nixon Administration is sponsoring a plan that urges states to draw up their own no-fault systems along Federal guidelines. Another plan, sponsored by Democratic Sen. Philip A. Hart of Michigan and Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, Democrat of Washington, would establish Federal standards and let the states set premium rates.

The Nixon guidelines suggest that insurance companies pay all of their policyholder's losses, regardless of who caused the accident. Lawsuits would be eliminated except for catastrophic losses such as loss of an eye or a limb.

The Hart-Magnuson standards would assure the victim of payment for his medical expenses, physical rehabilitation, and 85 per cent of his salary up to $1,000 a month, plus the right to sue for losses exceeding $30,000 or for death or serious disability. Under the Hart-Magnuson plan, an insurance company could cancel a policy for only two reasons: failure to pay a premium or loss of driver's license.

The no-fault laws passed by several states are limited versions of the Nixon and Hart-Magnuson plans. In Massachusetts, where insurance costs had gotten completely out of hand, no-fault payment is made only for medical expenses under $2,000. Everything else is still settled in court under the fault system.

Florida's plan covers all expenses, including property damage up to $5,000. Oregon, Deleware, and Illinois have passed laws compelling all drivers to buy medical coverage on themselves.

Proponents of a complete no-fault system criticize the state plans because they probably won't produce the big premium reductions and cost savings that no-fault advocates promise. Beyond different limits, the state plans still let people sue for pain and suffering on the basis of fault. That means a continuation of hgh adjustment expenses, lawyers' fees, and long court battles.

A system similar to Puerto Rico's is what no-fault partisans have in mind. Puerto Rico has been operating a complete no-fault system for 1½ years. Ninety cents of every premium dollar collected is available for loss compensation, premiums have dropped, another cut is in the offing, and the government agency administering the program wats to raise the ceiling on benefits.

The harshest critic of no-fault is the American Trial Lawyers Association, representing 26,000 lawyers who may see over 90 per cent of their legal fees evaporate if Hart-Magnuson becomes law. Indeed, many trial lawyers in Massachusetts now complain that the state's partial no-fault plan has ruined their business. No-fault backers say that's the very reason the lawyers are trying to kill all no-fault plans.

On July 20 a committee of the California Senate eviscerated a proposed no-fault insurance system introduced by Republican State Sen. John Harmer, who termed his bill's defeat "a triumph of special interests over consumer legislation." California's insurance commissioner, Richards Barger, says pressure from lawyers smothered the bills in committee. "Sooner or later," Mr. Barger says, "the public's going to finally figure out that the real opponents are the lawyers, that no-fault would mean a monetary loss to them."

The lawyers deny that they're so crass. "Only the guilty will get their money's worth under no-fault insurance," says Richard Marcus, president of the Trial Lawyers Association. "The drunk, the drag racer and the speeder are treated with new honor and distinction, while taking their payments from the rights of the innocent."

Edward W. Kuhn, testifying before the Senate Commerce Committee for the American Bar Association, said that no-fault plans "do violence to our traditional and moral belief that the negligent party should compensate the innocent victim of an accident. They should not be treated as equals."

Mr. Kuhn says several surveys have shown the public does not want no-fault. A recent Gallup poll, the only independent survey to date, found that 80 per cent of the public hasn't made up its mind on no-fault.

A NEW EDITOR INVITES IDEAS

The Carolina Homemaker
Edited by Brenda Sargent

Meet Mrs. Brenda Harmon Sargent, Carolina Country's new Homemaker Editor.

Brenda, reeent bride of a young Raleigh attorney, William C. Sargent, was previously editorial assistant to tlie editor of the Medical College of Virginia Quarterly. Slie left her job when slie moved to Raleigh to get married in Mareh.

Brenda attended Meredith College and tlie College of William and Mary (Williamsburg, Va.), took many eourses in home economies while a student, and has a baehelor of arts degree in history with a minor in fine arts.

In addition to painting, she likes to write, likes people and looks forward to writing about you and for you, the people of Carolina Country.

Because she wants to write about things you are interested in and which will be helpful to you and your families, she wants to know more about you and your interests, including your hobbies and what Homemaker features you like or would like to have changed. To get this information, Brenda is using the Homemaker pages this month to conduct a survey. She will explain the survey in the artiele on this page.

Since joining the staff of Carolina Country in June, I have spent some very interesting hours looking over recent and past issues of the magazine.

The many articles I have read tell a story of change: North Carolina has become more urbanized; its people have developed new interests and new outlooks, its homemakers and their families are involved in more activities. It has revealed, too, that while new hobbies are gaining popularity, many old crafts and homemaker arts are making a comeback.

The changes suggest that while you may still want features about new appliances and recipes, you might also like to read about current fashions in clothing and furniture, unit pricing in stores, getting the most from your household budget, restoring antiques or even, packing for a family camping trip.

The revival of interest in sewing, knitting, quilting and the many inquiries the magazine has received regarding ceramics, decoupage, crotcheting, macramé and weaving indicated many of you desire information about these things as well.

You may also want "how-to" articles about lawn care flower culture and arranging, interior decorating or perhaps how to build toy chests or remodel a closet.

I can't promise to be able to write authoritatively abou all these subjects myself; but I do promise that I will try t get the information for you from people who have th knowledge and present it on the Homemaker pages as spac and other commitments allow.

But to give you what you want, I need to know you an hear from you.

For that reason, I hope each of you will look over th questionnaire on the adjoining page, fill in the blanks o check the boxes as appropriate, and mail the page back t me as soon as possible.

Although the questionnaire contains a blank for you name and address, you may be sure we will not use you name without your consent.

Please do not hesitate to go beyond this questionnai and write telling me of anything which you do not fin covered, but which you think would be helpful.

If you have a hobby or are doing something oth readers might like to know about, tell me about it. If y have suggestions for stories, send them to me. If you kno someone who could write an article suitable for t Homemaker pages, I'd like her name and address. Althou we cannot pay for articles, it may well be that the auth would be happy to share her knowledge with other reade and would take satisfaction in having her byline appe in the magazine.

HOMEMAKER QUESTIONNAIRE

(Clip this page from the magazine and mail to: Brenda Sargent, Homemaker Editor, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C., 27602, as soon as possible.)

Dear Brenda:

I am married ____, single ____, divorced ____, a widow ____.

We own our home ____, live in a rented home ____, live in a mobile home ____, in an apartment ____.

We live in the country on a farm ____, we live in a town ____, in a city ____, in a housing development ____, in a mobile home park ____.

I am primarily a housewife ____. I work as well as keep house. I am employed as a _____. I am retired ____.

My husband works as a _____, owns his own business ____, is retired ____.

We have (number) ____ children, ____ grandchildren.

I finished the ____ grade in public school, I am a high school graduate ____. I attended college or some other educational institution after high school ____. I am a college graduate ____.

I receive *Carolina Country* as a paid subscriber ____. I receive *Carolina Country* through my electric membership corporation (co-op) ____. I enjoy the magazine. Yes ____. More than most other magazines I receive ____. I do not enjoy the magazine ____. The other members of my family read and enjoy *Carolina Country*. Yes ____. No ____.

I like the "Free Patterns" and have used them ____. I don't care for the "Free Patterns" ____.

I like the "Fashion Favorites" Patterns ____. I have used them ____. I do not care for the "Fashion Favorites" feature ____. I have been satisfied with the patterns I ordered ____. I have not been satisfied ____.

I read and have tried the "Kitchen Corner" recipes ____. I have been satisfied with most I have tried ____. I do not usually read or try the "Kitchen Corner" recipes ____. I have not had good luck with those I have tried ____. Most of them have turned out well for me ____. If some of the best, kitchen-tasted Kitchen Corner recipes were published in a cookbook, I would like to buy a copy. Yes ____. No ____.

I am interested in and would like more articles about the following:

Cooking—more recipes ____. More features about planning complete meals ____, features about baking ____, features about meals that can be cooked with small appliances ____, recipes and menus for outdoor cooking ____, better (more nutritious, appetizing and economical) meals for children ____.

Fashion—latest styles ____, features on dressing to enhance your figure ____, information on wearability and care of new fabrics ____.

Arts and Crafts—I would like to know more about what North Carolinians are doing in the arts and crafts ____. I would like to know how to quilt ____, make pottery ____, weave on a hand loom ____, make ceramics ____, hook rugs ____, macramé (or the art of knot tying) ____, decoupage ____, dried flower arranging ____.

Needle work—knitting ____, crotcheting ____, embroidery ____, sewing ____.

I would like to know how to make my family's income go further ____. How to improve my family's income and how I, or my husband, or members of my family, can get training for better jobs. ____.

I would like to know about educational opportunities for my children, including information about courses and training at North Carolina's technical institutes and community colleges as well as other accredited educational institutions. ____.

I would like to know more about decorating my home ____, making improvements in my kitchen ____ or elsewhere in my house ____.

In addition to the information covered above, I would like to make the following suggestions or comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Attach a note if more space needed.)

Name _____

Address _____

Post Office _____ zip _____

Name of my EMC or power co. _____

Consumer News

By Thomas J. Bolch

The North Carolina General Assembly has lowered the age of adulthood in North Carolina to age 18. Thus it is appropriate to warn those citizens aged 18 to 21 of the additional responsibilities they obtained along with the freedom of adulthood.

As an adult, you will now be legally bound by your agreements. As a minor, your agreements with adults were voidable by you at will. Thus, if you bought a car and wrecked it, you could take the junk back to the adult who sold it to you and demand your money back. And under the law he would have had to give it back.

But as an adult, a deal is a deal. You can't take the car back, especially if you have wrecked it.

Since your agreements as a minor were voidable and not void, the adult was bound by the agreement as long as you did not declare it void. Thus the minor who has contracted with an adult has the best of all possible worlds. He can make the adult perform his part of the bargain if it is in his interest to do so, or he can get out of the deal just by saying he wants out—and he gets a full refund.

And by becoming an adult you have won the right to sue and be sued. As a minor you could not be sued, and if somebody wanted to bring a lawsuit against you, some suitable adult would have to be named as your "guardian ad litem," to defend the suit in your behalf. As an adult you have to go it alone.

The moral of this whole story is this: While you have won the right to vote and to do other things that only adults can legally do, you have also won all the liabilities that accompany adulthood. So, be careful what you sign. And when you enter into a deal, be prepared to go through with your end of the bargain.

* * * * *

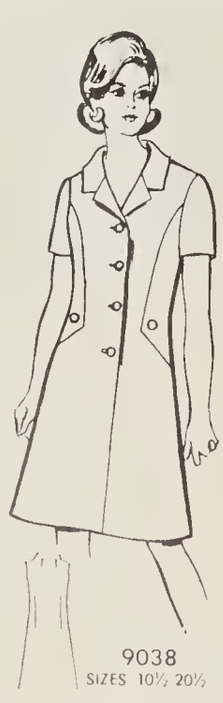
BEWARE of:

Door to door salesmen peddling photographs. The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division says that several "portrait" companies have taken advantage of North Carolina consumers by offering professional-quality photography at bargain prices, along with free albums and other benefits for taking part in an advertising program. The photos they received were of very low quality, and the price was outrageously high.

Magazine sales people. These are usually college-age boys and girls who claim they are taking part in a contest to win a scholarship. Don't believe them. And don't fall for the trick that THEY will have to pay for an order they have already started writing when you tell them you don't want any.

Shipping costs added to sales price. If the advertisement does not mention shipping costs, don't pay any. This gimmick has been used recently to pad the cost of items that were advertised at reasonable prices. With the shipping costs added, the price was not so reasonable, and the advertisement was misleading.

The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division bases much of its work on information supplied by people like you. If you have been the victim of fraud, deception or sharp dealing, please write to the Division, setting forth the details of what happened. Letters should be addressed to: Mr. Eugene Hafer, Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, P.O. Box 629, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.



Fashion FAVORITES

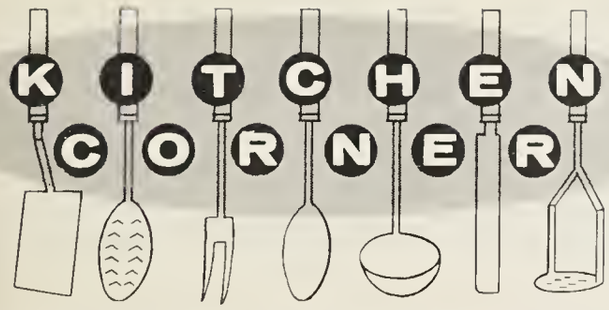
Pattern No. 9038 is cut in sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½, 18½ and 20½.

Pattern No. 9186 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, and 16.

Pattern No. 9471 is cut in sizes Teen 10, 12, 14, and 16.

Pattern No. 4773 is cut in sizes 2, 4, 6, and 8.

Send 75 cents in coin (no stamps) for each pattern to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, Box 42, Old Chelsea Station, New York, New York 10011. For first class mail, add 15 cents for each pattern.



A MEAL THAT CAN WAIT

(Pork Chops First Class)

It often happens that dinner is ready long before ıe family is. Mrs. Lois B. Tetterton has learned ıe good way to confront this problem with her cipe for "Pork Chops First Class." Try it and let ur family think you are a miracle-worker.

Mrs. Tetterton is the wife of a contractor, who ıs built many homes served by Woodstock MC. Though she once taught school, she now ıds that her three boys and one girl keep her lsy at home in her own small classroom.

If you have a favorite holiday season recipe you'd like to sıre through this column, send it to: Brenda Sargent, Ktchen Corner, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602. Tell t something about yourself and family and give us the rne of your electric membership corporation. We pay $2 f the recipe chosen monthly for this column.

CAROLINA COUNTRY RECIPE

Submitted by Mrs. Lois B. Tetterton, Route 1, Box 8, Pinetown, N.C. 27865.

PCFC

(Pork Chops First Class)

Make a mixture of flour, salt, pepper and sage to aste. Roll pork chops in the mixture and brown in ıil. After browning place the pork chops in a covered aking dish.

To the pan drippings add several tablespoons of ıe flour mixture. Brown the flour mixture and add ne can of onion soup and one can of water. Bring to boil, pour over pork chops, then bake at 325° for ne hour. When done, you have a delicious gravy for otatoes or rice.

JOTE: The dry soup mixes work equally as well. ollow package directions about the amount of ater.)

Free Patterns

Pattern Advice

In ordering Free Patterns, be sure you enclose a long, self-addressed envelope bearing an 8-cent stamp. Print or type your name and complete address on it, and fold it so it will not be torn when the cover envelope is opened. We receive so many requests for Free Patterns, we usually have none left after the expiration date shown on the coupon. So, send in your request early.

Two Piece Dress

One little, two little, three little scallops plus more encircle the hemlines of this fantastic skirt and blouse duo.

Crocheted Dress

Contrasting color, Dolman sleeves and a beautiful pattern of open work stitches make this dress a fashion favorite.

Long-Torso Dress

Variety is the spice of life in this shell and treble stitched dress. A rolled collar and chain cord tie complete the look.

To:
The Carolina Homemaker
P. O. Box 1699
Raleigh, N. C. 27602

This pattern offer expires
November 15, 1971

Please send me the pattern instructions I have checked below. I am enclosing a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope bearing an 8-cent stamp. (Two such envelopes are required for more than 4 patterns.)

☐ Two Piece Dress ☐ Crocheted Dress
☐ Long-Torso Dress

My name is:
Address:
Comment; if any:

The name of my EMC is:

The Consumer's Plight in Rate Cases

In July, the State Utilities Commission approved requests from Carolina Power & Light Co. and Duke Power Co. for "interim emergency relief" pending final action on rate increase applications. The Commission authorized the temporary increases on the basis of affidavits submitted by the companies, rather than on evidence brought out in full scale hearings. Commissioner Hugh A. Wells, while concurring, wrote a seprate opinion dissenting to the principle of interim rate-making. The following excerpts from Commissioner Wells' opinion explain his objections and present the case for the rate-paying public.

I question the wisdom of setting rates for public utilities on an interim or "emergency" basis. The consuming public is at a disadvantage in major rate cases before this Commission. This is ironic, for the rate-making statute provides that in a rate case, the burden of proving the need shall be upon the utility seeking such increase.

In practical terms, however, the burden shifts very quickly during the progress of a rate case. The utilities come well prepared, which is their right as well as their duty. It does give one pause, however, to consider the long hours of preparation, the pedigree of expert witnesses, and the sharp legal skills employed by the utilities to justify increased rates, are all paid by the very persons out of whose pockets the increased rates must come.

It is the rate payers who bear the expense of rate cases—not the public utility companies. Under these circumstances, utility management is spending a coin engraved with "heads we win, tails you lose."

We must assume, therefore, that when a utility files for a rate increase, their gun is loaded, and when fired, will hit the bull's-eye. When they are finished, the burden of proof takes on the aroma of the sweet smell of success.

How can the average consumer deal with all this? How can the man from Pinetops contend with the men from Wall Street? Mr. Average Consumer certainly cannot hire the best of accounting talent, the best financiers, the best bankers, to testify for him; nor the best of lawyers to plead his case in rate proceedings before this Commission. Neither does he usually have the time to even show up and say nay.

At times these circumstances are alleviated in part by groups or organizations which intervene on behalf of the consumer and can be of great help in bringing needed balance to a major rate case.

We are fortunate in this State, for instance, to have an Attorney General who stretches the meager means of his budget to the limit toward this end. But where company will spend two or three hundred thousand dol in cases such as this, the Attorney General will do wel be able to allocate five or ten thousand dollars to repre the consumer and the public; and these dollars fa describe the odds.

If the rate case scales are to be balanced, it is obvious primary responsibility for such balance must be foun and provided by this Commission. To be sure, it is responsibility to set rates which are fair to the utilities to the public alike, and so as judges and jury we must w the evidence fairly as it is given to us.

But in our investigatory role, we also have responsibility, through our staff, to vigorously diligently pursue and present the impartial, public int in rate cases, for we know that otherwise, the scales wil be balanced and the results cannot be fair.

We must therefore encourage, admonish and instruc Staff to vigorously pursue these tasks and goals; an must ourselves be cautious and careful to see to the pu great interest in these matters. We—Staff nor Commiss cannot do so in the haste and the pressure of int "emergency" rate proceedings. Under these circumsta the scales are thrown more grossly out of balance an almost, if not altogether, impossible to adequately pr the public interest.

It is to be hoped that utility management in this S be it electric, natural gas, telephone, transportatio otherwise can so plan their affairs and conduct business that neither this Commission nor the public w burdened in the future with interim, "emerg proceedings. This Commission cannot properly discha duty to the public nor to the utilities, nor can the p interest, either as to rates or service, be properly prot under such circumstances.

BEST OF BOOKS

North Carolinians have been puzzled and fascinated for generations by phenomena like the Maco Lights and stories of things and happenings that defy explanation. Now it is possible, thanks to Bernice Kelly Harris of Seaboard, to enjoy the best of such stories in a new book, **STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN**, published by Johnson Publishing Co. of Murfreesboro.

Edited by Mrs. Harris, herself the author of several books and many stories, assisted by Evelyn Freid, "Strange Things Happen" sells for only $4.95 and presents 68 stories about ghosts, ESP, reincarnation, coincidences, providences and illusions. The authors are members of the Chowan College creative writing group (which Mrs. Harris conducts) and members of the North Carolina Writers Conference who have some association with the group.

Wherever you live in North Carolina, you're likely to find a story with a local connection or one which suggests something you have heard about in your town or county. Even if you don't generally care for ghost stories, you'll enjoy the book because of its wealth of North Carolina lore. And as Mrs. Harris says in the preface, "Today, even those who discredit the eerie and the psychic, read stories about them with a degree of interest."

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An unusual little book, "**NORTH CAROLINA FIRSTS**, (published by the Provincial Press, 2007 Nancy Ann Drive, Raleigh, N.C. $4.25), features 25 national and world superlatives created in the Old North State.

Written by Faris Jane Corey of Raleigh, and illustrated with 70 photographs, the book describes Tar Heel persons, places and things which surpass others in achievement, number, size and quality.

Most are significant. A few are trivial. All are interesting. Their net impact will compel each Carolinian to take a bow; each out-of-stater to tip his hat.

Miss Corey ranks the state's most significant first as the resolution of independence which Carolina made as a colony in Halifax on April 12, 1776. She rates high the three Presidents and one First Lady which the state gave the nation.

Other superlatives from the state include the best playwright in 1927, best woman tennis player in 1957, fastest mile runner in 1962 and most beautiful woman in 1962.

The state is also the location of the tallest lighthouse and longest straight stretch of railroad in America and the largest granite quarry, most powerful broadcasting station and largest living Christmas tree in the world.

Her experiences in these localities plus a home background which encouraged an intest in and love for North Carolina made it natural for Miss Corey to research and write "**NORTH CAROLINA FIRSTS.**"

The book, a first itself, is something for every Tar Heel home.

****

Nell Wise Wechter, winner of the 1957 AAUW award for the best children's book by a North Carolinian, has published a new book which promises to delight all of its readers. **SWAMP GIRL** (John F. Blair Publishing Co., 404 NCNB Building, Winston-Salem, N.C., $3.95; illustrated by Patsy Faires) is a child's adventure story with an "ever popular" theme—the search for a hidden treasure.

Two things, however, make this book stand out from others of its kind. First, Mrs. Wechter has created a spirited and quite real young heroine in the person of Casey Ann Kirsten. Secondly, she has achieved a colorful setting for her story by combining the romantic and historic past of Coastal North Carolina with its still adventurous, often violent present.

From the discovery of a long forgotten trunk in the attic to the decoding of a strange series of letters, Mrs. Wechter allows the suspense, strongly laced with the life and humor of the locale, to mount steadily.

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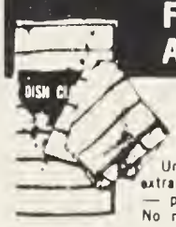

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ESTABLISHED 1910

"Should Students Have Part Time Job When They Are in High School?"

"Whether a student should be allowed to have a part time job while still in school is best decided by the degree of maturity of the student. Many students I know have part time jobs. Most all of them handle jobs well because they are mature young adults. There is no question that most any teenager could use a little cash now and then. A part time job is a good answer for people who can do that job well while not permitting their studies to take a backslide."

Clarence W. Tolbert
Route 5, Box 266
Mount Airy

Clarence is 18 years old and a graduate of North Surry High School. His hobbies include basketball, reading and chess. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Tolbert, are served by Surry-Yadkin Electric Membership Corporation.

* * * * *

"Yes, I believe students should be allowed to keep part time jobs while still in school, provided it does not interfere with their classes and their school work. My school has a Distributive Education Program where students may leave school in the afternoon and attend a job. This is for juniors and seniors only. But if sophomores and freshmen have access to a job after school and they keep their work up they should be allowed to keep a job. This is very helpful in paying for club dues, books, school supplies and lunches. I think it's a very good idea!"

Virginia Brackett
Route 1
Iron Station

Virginia will be a junior at East Lincoln High School. Her hobbies are dancing and reading. Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Stroupe, are served by Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation.

"Students in school should definitely be allowed and encouraged to acquire part time jobs—provided that they do not have too much work to do at home and they can still keep their grades up. A part time job is a responsibility which can help a student mature and gain self-respect. He also can get an idea of the sacrifice his parents have made for him. With the extra cash, a student can lessen his dependence on his parents, and still save a little for the future. New people and new experiences are an inevitable part of a job. A better understanding of the business world will help a young person make plans for his future."

Jane Wood
Route 3, Box 294
Denton

Jane is 16-years-old and will be a senior at Denton High School. Sewing, writing letters and water skiing are a few of the things she enjoys. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Colon Wood, are served by Davidson Electric Membership Corporation.

* * * * *

"Why shouldn't a student work part time while in high school? As long as students can keep up their studies and still earn the money they need for 'extras' during school, I feel they should be permitted to work. Many school nationwide are providing courses for students who want to work and go to school. Two student work programs Distributive Education and Industrial Cooperative Training seem to be quite successful."

Marleen Water
P.O. Box 121
Washington

Marleen is 16-years-old and will be a senior at North Pi High School. Her hobbies are reading, sewing and takin care of children. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Wate are served by Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membe ship Corporation.

Teen ROUNDTABLE

If you have a good answer, send it to THE TEEN ROUNDTABLE, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602, at once. Tell us a few facts about yourself—your age, school, hobbies, etc. Include your parents' name, and the name of the electric membership corporation serving you. If your answer is published, we will send you $5.

If you want to submit a question, send it along for our statewide panel to answer. For each question used, the sender will get a $5 check. Jot yours down and send it to us right away.

NEXT QUESTION

"Should married students be a lowed to continue attending clubs ar other school activities?"

This question was submitted l Kathy Heffley, who will be receivi $5 from CAROLINA COUNTR Kathy is 15-years-old and atten Havelock High School. Her paren Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Heffley, are serv by Carteret-Craven Electric Memb ship Corporation.

Hugh Downs

Hugh Downs' Radio Show for Consumers

Each Saturday morning, through ctober 23, America's consumer-wned rural electric systems are onsoring, through their national NT advertising program, a network dio program on NBC Monitor.

The five-minute show, "Hugh owns' Report for the Consumer," is th hosted and prepared by Hugh owns of NBC "Today Show" fame d focuses on consumer problems d issues of national interest.

The program can be heard between a.m. and noon Saturdays over SOC Charlotte, WMNC Morganton, TF Raleigh and WSJS Winston-lem. Downs' guests will discuss such ngs as meat buying, new credit laws, d additives, dangerous toys and rsing homes.

Check with your local NBC radio tion for exact time in your area, l "take five" with Hugh Downs and erica's Rural Electric Systems.

AMLICO-BEAUFORT'S MAN

In the article, "Teens Size Up the iticians," in the August issue, olina Country failed to state one of Youth Tour teens quoted, George Porter Jr. of Aurora was spon-d by Pamlico-Beaufort EMC, ntsboro.

A Chicken Ain't a Chic Sale

There was a time when a cartoon about a chicken was always good for a laugh and a cow in a cartoon was inevitably comical.

It's now so now. It's not so because there aren't as many people now who have chickens and keep cows. In terms of modern preference, a cartoon about a dingo or a trolley car would be as likely to amuse.

A cartoonist, who came by from Pennsylvania with a collection of cartoons to sell, said he used to sell many chicken and cow cartoons and other cartoons with rural themes. Now, he said, they fall flat.

"I used to sell to a lot of poultry magazines and farm magazines," he said, "Now most of them have gone out of business. I guess there aren't enough small chicken farmers or small general farmers left to keep them going. Everything has gotten to be so specialized."

Maybe so, but it's a shame. Everybody lucky enough to live in the country or outside of a town or a city ought to have a garden and a few chickens, a pig or two and, if the family uses enough milk and cream, a family cow. Unfortunately, what ought to be isn't, and more and more rural people who could have their own eggs, milk, meat and vegetables are buying them, like city folk, and living like city folk.

Nowadays chickens are raised impersonally by the thousands and the little red hen we once read about in school has gone the way of the little red schoolhouse. Eggs are an industry. Pig farmers and dairy and beef farmers have become bigger and fewer, and so have farms in general.

Not only that but such rural landmarks as the rustic outdoor convenience are vanishing—to nobody's regret.

Which recalls a story told by Clyde Ellis, general manager emeritus of NRECA.

Ellis had written in a speech that prior to rural electrification, the old outhouses—the "Chic-Sales"—were daily reminders the 20th Century had bypassed rural America. When a 21-year-old typist came to "Chic-Sales" she stopped. She'd never heard the term before. She said it sounded "psychelelic" to her.

A lot has changed out in the country, and in the towns and everywhere. But as the cartoonist said—when asked what he draws now that chicken cartoons don't sell anymore—there're always people.

People are funnier than anybody, in cartoons or for real. *Jim Chaney*

WANTED
MEN - WOMEN

Age 18 and over. Prepare now for U.S. Civil Service job openings during the next 12 months.
Government positions pay high starting salaries. They provide much greater security than private employment and excellent opportunity for advancement. Many positions require little or no specialized education or experience.
But to get one of these jobs, you must pass a test. The competition is keen and in some cases only one out of five pass.

Lincoln Service has helped thousands prepare for these tests every year since 1948. It is one of the largest and oldest privately owned schools of its kind and is not connected with the Government.
For FREE booklet on Government jobs, including list of positions and salaries, fill out coupon and mail at once — TODAY.
You will also get full details on how you can prepare yourself for these tests.
Don't delay - ACT NOW!

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I am very much interested. Please send me absolutely FREE (1) A list of U.S. Government positions and salaries; (2) Information on how to qualify for a U.S. Government Job.

Name _____ Age _____
Street _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____

I have read the May 1971 Carolina Country, including the two articles by Charles Dunn and your related editorials. The cooperation of public-spirited journalists such as you is a great aid in our task of alleviating North Carolina's drug problems. I certainly appreciate the assistance you and your staff rendered in disseminating this important information.

Robert Morgan
N.C. Attorney General

I just want to add my applause to Tom Byrd's and Louis Aull's story in your June issue, "Don't Buy a Homesite Until You Know the Soil is Right." The story is excellent. I'm glad it brought out that soils information is available to urban and rural people through our soil and water conservation districts and SCS employees.

Frank H. Jeter Jr.
Information Officer
Soil Conservation Service

You should have entitled your July article about gasoline, "What the Obsolete Octane Requirements Don't Tell You About Gasoline." You should perhaps consult the American Petroleum Institute or the U.S. Bureau of Mines for a more up to date picture of how gasoline should be rated.

R. I. McDonald
McDonald Oil Company
Laurinburg

Mr. McDonald's point merits consideration. However, Jack Anderson, the syndicated columnist, reported in papers across the nation and state July 15 "the big names in gasoline . . . give you no more happy motoring than brand Xs that sell for 5 cents less a gallon." He also said the big firms sell their gas to the independents and exchange gas in many instances among themselves.

I enjoy the magazine very much.

Mrs. M. L. Prevette
Rt. 5, Fayetteville

I enjoy the Carolina Country.

Mrs. J. R. Collier
Rt. 1, Wade

Albemarle Crafts

If you are interested in handicrafts, you don't want to miss the 13th Annual Albemarle Craftsman's Fair. It will be held at the National Guard Armory in Elizabeth City, September 15-18.

Among the many things you will see exhibited will be demonstrations of canning, copper tooling, weaving, pottery, crewel embroidery, stuffed dolls and decoupage. You'll see scores of things that you will want to buy or try to make yourself.

The exhibits will be open each of the three week days from noon to 9 p.m. and on Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. Admission is $1.00 for adults and 50¢ for children.

The fair is sponsored by the Extension Homemakers Clubs of the Albemarle area of Northeastern North Carolina, the Albemarle Craftsman's Guild and the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce.

So, join the folks from far and wide who will gather to learn new skills, watch a craft taking shape or buy the unusual with 300 years of tradition. All at the Albemarle Craftsman's Fair.

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The Poet's Corner

CAUTIONARY

One must be wary
of ordinary
censure that belies;

and equally chary
of extraordinary
complimentary lies.

Dorothy Webber
Lake Toxaway

THE CAROLINA HILLS

Once Mother Earth was "without form and
void,"
And everywhere was black chaotic night.
A voice above the tumult was heard
Which gave a firm command:
"Let there be light!"
All through the blackness of that dreadful
night
The earth travailed in pain until the morn.
Then mountain, valley, plain, and stream,
and lake,
In all their gorgeous perfectness were born.
"Behold what I have made is very good."
And at the grandeur of His work my being
thrills,
OH! Surely when He spoke those words, His
eyes
Were focused on the Carolina Hills.

Joe Beach
Rt. 1, Huntersville

A TENDER DREAM

I like the sun,
I like the sea,
I like the feel
Of the air about me!

There are trees up high
In the hill so green,
And a beam of moonlight
Makes me dream!

It makes me dream
That you are with me,
Liking the sun,
Liking the sea.

A boy runs by
And kicks the sand
He's playing ball
With a very straight hand.

We climb our hill,
And we tenderly dream
As we look and remember
That you are on God's Team.

Dorothy C. Isbell
Boone

MISTAKE WISE

The grass is growing fast now,
Needs mowing every other day.
It's really paying off now,
That mistake we made in May.
I bet that by another spring
We'll be a little wiser
And not be quite so generous
With the fertilizer.

Edna Sawyer
Havelock

Speak Up, Young People
You May Win a Cash Prize

Carolina Country will award cash prizes of up to $25 each to its young readers, in the fourth grade through 12th grade age group, for the best themes on "Why I'm Glad I Live In Carolina Country."

The editorial on page 3 of this issue tells what the contest is all about.

Anybody in the fourth through the 12th grade, or who is between 9 and 18 years old, can compete, but every contestant must live in North Carolina at least part of each year.

There'll be one set of prizes for students in the fourth through sixth grade, one for those in the seventh through ninth grades and another for those in the tenth through twelth grades.

All you have to do is write, in not more than 300 words, what you like about North Carolina and why you are glad you live here.

Entries will be judged on how clearly you set out your reasons for liking North Carolina and not on whether your theme is neat or your grammar is perfect.

The judges will be three outstanding North Carolina newspaper editors.

The only rules are: (1) That you write your theme yourself; (2) That we can read what you write; (3) That you put your name, age and grade and the name and correct, complete address of your parents at the end, and (4) that you mail your theme to Carolina Country not later than October 31, 1971.

Send your entry to: Contest Editor, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.

MAIL THIS MONEY SAVING COUPON

FREE OF EXTRA COST
6 Dutch Muscari (6 CM) imported from Holland given free with every 50 tulips. Fall planting. Spring blooms dainty blue.

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(Minimum 50 Bulbs For Only $1.50) Fall-planted tulips bloom spring after spring without replanting. Coupon offer brings 50 healthy, hardy, medium size (already 2"-3" circumference) planting stock bulbs, all for $1.50 . . . only 3¢ a bulb. Popular home garden varieties in a startling array of Rainbow Mix blazing colors. With normal soil, care and growing conditions they should grow to larger size the first season. In fact, we guarantee many blooms next spring, a normal bloom 2nd spring, and many years or replacement free (5 year limit). Truly an unbeatable offer. So rush your order today for delivery at right time for fall planting. Satisfaction guaranteed or return within 10 days for purchase price refund.

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HaLE!

Sweet Words

"To what do you owe your extraordinary success?" the company's top house-to-house salesman was asked.

"To the first five words I utter when a woman opens the door," he replied. "Miss, is your mother in?"

Time Moves On

The speaker had talked much too long—well over 90 minutes. "I'm sorry I talked so long," he said, finally, "but I don't have my watch with me."

Came a voice from the back of the audience, "There's a calendar on the wall just behind you!"

A Lemon

A motorist brought his car in for its 1,500 mile inspection.

"Is there anything the matter with it?" the service manager asked.

"Well, there's only one part of it that doesn't make a noise," the customer replied, "and that's the horn."

The Admiral and the Bishop

Two English schoolboys were bitter enemies. One entered the Royal Navy and became an admiral, while the other entered the ministry and became a bishop. Their hatred never ebbed.

Years later they met on a London railroad platform. The bishop who had grown fat, swept up to the admiral, resplendent in his glittering uniform, and said: "Stationmaster, from which platform does the 10:05 leave for Canterbury?" The admiral bowed and replied: "Platform five, madam. But in your condition you shouldn't be traveling."

She Got the Last Word

"I don't see why you're so mad at your ex-fiancee," said the friend. "After all, she returned your ring."

"That's right," replied the other. "But she didn't have to mail it back marked, 'Glass, handle with care.' "

No Sign of Welcome

Veterinarian: It will ruin this dog's looks if I cut off his tail. Why do you insist on it?

Husband: My Mother-in-law will be visiting us soon and I want to eliminate any possible sign of welcome.

"Will you be careful changing channels? You just closed the garage door."

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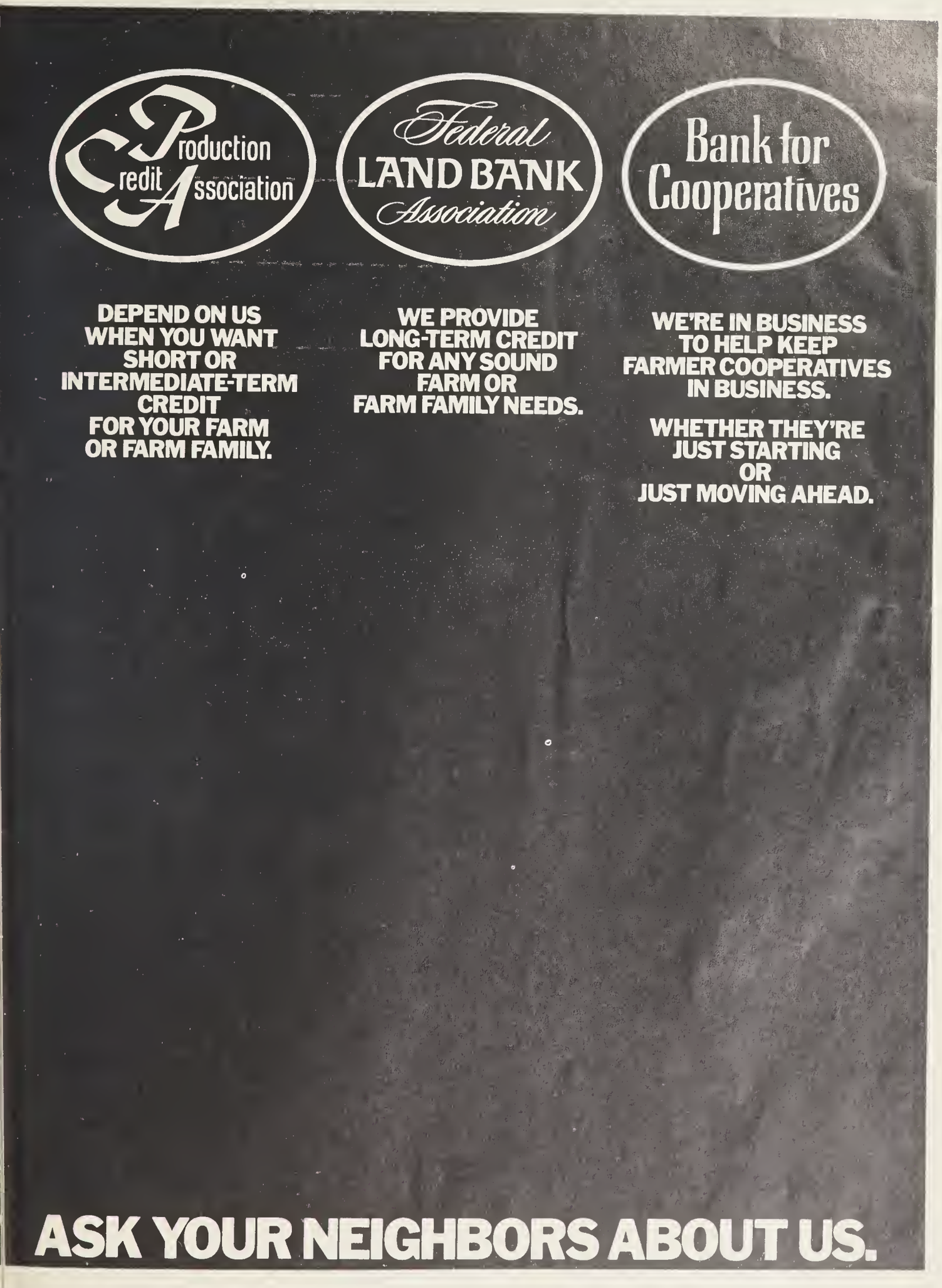
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Reason Two

The Poulan XXV is priced tough. At $129.95, complete with 14 inch bar and chain, we win the money contest too.

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